

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

UNCLAS STATE 118374

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, FR, CA, US

SUBJECT: ANTITRUST: FTC INVESTIGATION OF LAFARGE, S.A.

1. FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION (FTC) HAS ADVISED DEPARTMENT THAT IT IS CONDUCTING A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION INVOLVING LAFARGE, S.A., PARIS AND CANADA CEMENT LAFARGE, LTD. OF MONTREAL.

2. INVESTIGATION IS TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER ANY ANTICOMPETITIVE EFFECTS MAY BE RESULTING FROM FORMATION AND OPERATION OF TWO JOINT VENTURES IN U.S. BY TWO ABOVE NAMED COMPANIES AND INVOLVING LONE STAR INDUSTRIES, INC., AN AMERICAN COMPANY, IN CALCIUM ALUMINATE AND PORTLAND CEMENT INDUSTRIES, AND WHETHER THESE COMPANIES HAVE VIOLATED SECTION 5 OF THE FTC ACT INVOLVING UNFAIR METHODS OF COMPETITION AND SECTION 7 OF THE CLAYTON ACT DEALING WITH MERGERS.

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3. LAFARGE FONDU INTERNATIONAL, A SUBSIDIARY OF LAFARGE, S.A., IS ALSO UNDER INVESTIGATION BUT IT IS NOT RPT NOT KNOWN WHERE LAFARGE FONDU INTERNATIONAL IS INCORPORATED.

4. PURSUANT TO 1967 OECD RECOMMENDATION ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM THEIR RESPECTIVE HOST GOVERNMENTS OF THIS IMPENDING ANTITRUST ACTION AND REPORT ANY COMMENTS.
ROBINSON

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